

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of: VAN

Confirmation Number: 3640

BENTHEM ET AL.

Application No.: 09/754,243

Group Art Unit: 1711

Filed: January 5, 2001

Examiner: S. Berman

Title: POWDER PAINT BINDER COMPOSITION

November 10, 2003

PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.182 REQUEST FOR WITHDRAWAL OF TERMINAL DISCLAIMER

Mail Stop Petitions Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir;

Applicants hereby petition the Commissioner, under 37 C.F.R. 1.182, to withdraw the Terminal Disclaimer filed on July 17, 2002, and noted to have been accepted and recorded in Paper No. 15, mailed December 24, 2002 (see page 2, lines 1-4). Please charge the petition fee required by 37 C.F.R. 1.17(h) to Deposit Account No. 03-3975, referencing Applicant's Docket Number <u>030268/0275922</u>. A duplicate of this paper is included for this purpose. This petition is authorized and in accordance with MPEP § 1490 page 1400-86 (August 2001, as revised February 2003).

This petition should be granted because the circumstances leading to the filing of the Terminal Disclaimer are no longer present in the application as currently pending, pursuant to an Amendment filed concurrently herewith. Specifically, that portion of the claimed subject matter which prompted an obviousness-type double patenting rejection and the filing of the Terminal Disclaimer has been excised from the claims such that an obviousness-type double patenting rejection would no longer lie or be appropriate.

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Statement of Facts

1. An obviousness-type double patenting was issued in the Office Action dated April 17, 2002, Paper No. 8. On pages 4-5 of Paper No. 8, then pending claims 1-8 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-5 of U.S. Patent No. 6,245,829. As stated therein,

"Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because formula (I) in the instant claims encompasses species set forth in formula (I) in claim 1 of US '829. For example, "n" in the instant formula (I) can be 1 or 2 and Y can be hydrogen, a C_{1-8} alkyl or a group of formula (II), thus reading on the formula set forth in US '829. 'A' can be a monovalent or polyvalent organic group as set forth in claim 1 of US '829." (Emphasis added.)

- 2. Claim 1 of US '829 recites:
- --1. A radiation curable coating composition comprising a compound according to formula (I)

$$A = \begin{pmatrix}
O & Y & R^{1} & R^{3} & O & R^{5} & R^{6} \\
\parallel & | & | & | & | & | & | & | \\
C & N & C & C & C & C
\end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix}
C & Y & R^{1} & R^{3} & O & R^{5} & R^{6} \\
\parallel & | & | & | & | & | & | \\
R^{2} & R^{4} & & & & R^{7}
\end{bmatrix}$$

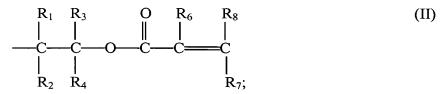
$$\begin{bmatrix}
R^{7} \\
D
\end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix}
R^{7} \\
D
\end{bmatrix}$$

where:

A = a monovalent or polyvalent organic group selected from saturated or unsaturated (C1-C60) alkyl groups or (C6-C10) aryl groups,

 $Y = hydrogen, a (C_1 - C_8)$ alkyl group or



wherein

 R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , R_4 are, identical or different, hydrogen or a linear, branched or cyclic (C_1 - C_8) alkyl chain;

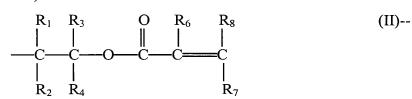
 $R_5 = \text{hydrogen, } (C_1-C_5) \text{ alkyl, } -CH_2OH \text{ or } CH_2COOX;$

 R_6 , R_7 (sic R_7) = hydrogen, (C_1 - C_8) alkyl, (C_6 - C_{10}) aryl or coox (sic, COOX);

 $X = \text{hydrogen or } (C_1 - C_8) \text{ alkyl};$

P = 1 or 2 with the proviso that when p = 1,

y (sic Y) =



- 3. Claims 1 and 2 of the present application, at the time of the obviousness-type double patenting rejection recited:
- --1. A radiation curable powder paint binder composition containing a radiation curable compound being a mono or multivalent carboxylic ester of a β , γ , δ , or ε-hydroxyalkylamide group containing compound, in which the carboxylic ester is derived from an α , β -ethylenically unsaturated carboxylic acid.--
- --2. A composition according to Claim 1, characterized in that the compound is a compound according to formula (I):

$$A = \begin{pmatrix}
O & Y & R^{1} & R^{3} & O & R^{5} & R^{6} \\
\parallel & | & | & | & | & | & | & | \\
C & N - C & | & C & C - C - C - C - C & | & | & | & | \\
R^{2} & R^{4} & R^{4} & R^{7} & R^{7}
\end{pmatrix}_{n}$$

where:

A = hydrogen, or a monovalent op (sic, or) polyvalent organic group which is derived from a saturated or unsaturated (C_1 - C_{60}) alkyl group, derived from an (C_6 - C_{10}) aryl group or a polymer P. (sic)

Y = hydrogen, an (C_1-C_8) alkyl group or

 R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 are, identical or different, hydrogen or a lineair (sic), branched or cyclic (C_1 - C_8) alkyl chain;

 R^5 = hydrogen, (C₁-C₅) alkyl, -CH₂OH or CH₂COOX;

 R^6 , R^7 = hydrogen, (C₁-C₈) alkyl, (C₆-C₁₀) aryl or COOX;

 $X = \text{hydrogen or } (C_1 - C_8) \text{ alkyl};$

n = 1-1000 and

m = 1-4--

- 4. After entry of the concurrently filed Supplemental Amendment, the only independent claim, claim 27, reads as follows:
- --27. A radiation curable compound represented by the following formula (I) and which is a mono or multi valent carboxylic acid ester of a β , γ , δ or ε-hydroxy-alkylamide group containing compound, wherein the ester is derived from an α , β -ethylenically unsaturated carboxylic acid:

A
$$\begin{pmatrix} O & Y & R^1 & R^3 & O & R^5 & R^6 \\ \parallel & \parallel \\ C & N & C & \begin{pmatrix} C & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \\ & & & &$$

where:

A = a condensation polymer P which is a polyester, polylactone, polyamide, polyesteramide, polyesterether, polyurethane, polyurethane-urea, a linear polyether derived from diol, or branched polyether comprising at least one trifunctional alcohol unit;

Y = hydrogen, an alkyl group having from 1 to 8 carbon atoms or

 R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 are, identical or different, hydrogen or a linear, branched or cyclic (C_1 - C_8) alkyl chain;

 R^5 = hydrogen, (C₁-C₅) alkyl, -CH₂OH or CH₂COOX;

 R^6 , R^7 = hydrogen, (C_1-C_8) alkyl, (C_6-C_{10}) aryl or COOX;

 $X = \text{hydrogen or } (C_1 - C_8) \text{ alkyl};$

n = 1-1000 and

m = 1-4.

- 5. In the Office Action, Paper No. 24, mailed June 16, 2003, restriction was required under 35 U.S.C. § 121, as follows:
- I. Claims 2, 3 and 9-23, drawn to a radiation curable "compound" of formula (I) that is a non-polymeric compound,
- II. Claims 2, 3, 9-23 and 27-32, drawn to or a polymeric compound, In support of the requirement for restriction, the Action states,

"In the instant case the different inventions would be expected to have different effects since one invention is a radiation curable compound and the second invention is a radiation curable polymer. While the compound and the polymer each contain at least one acrylated alkylamide functional group, the properties of the compounds and the products obtained by curing the compounds would be expected to be materially different from the properties of the polymers and the products obtained by curing the polymers, in the absence of evidence to the contrary."

- 6. In the Communication (Amendment) filed June 23, 2003, Applicants elected Group II, "namely, those claims wherein the radiation-curable compound is a polymeric compound."
- 7. Applicants were orally informed, in a telephone conversation with the Examiner, on August 27, 2003, that claim 27 (and the claims dependent thereon) would be allowed upon

cancellation of the non-elected claims, including then pending claim 2, encompassing the non-elected subject matter. This was confirmed in the Office Action issued September 8, 2003 in which claims 27-33 were allowed and claims 2, 3, 9-21 and 34 were withdrawn from consideration.

8. In the concurrently filed Amendment, claims 2, 9 and 10 are cancelled and claims 3 and 11-21 are amended to depend from claim 27. None of the currently pending claims encompass the embodiment which was the subject of the obviousness-type double patenting rejection or of the requirement for restriction/election.

Points to be Reviewed

6. The Commissioner is requested to review whether Applicants are entitled to the relief requested herein, namely, withdrawal of the previously filed and recorded Terminal Disclaimer. It is submitted that this review should include consideration of the propriety of the obviousness-type double patenting rejection in view of the changed nature of the claimed subject matter wherein the definition of "A" in claim 27 is a condensation polymer; whereas the definition of "A" in US 6,245,829, over which the Terminal Disclaimer was filed, is a "monovalent or polyvalent organic group selected from saturated or unsaturated (C1-C60) alkyl groups or (C6-C10) aryl groups" and noting that the basis for the obviousness-type double patenting rejection, as stated in Paper No. 8, page 5, was, *inter alia* "'A' can be a monovalent or polyvalent organic group as set forth in claim 1 of US '829.").

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Action Requested

Applicants request that the Terminal Disclaimer recorded in the subject application be withdrawn and that the application be passed to issue without any disclaimer of the terminal

portion of the patent to issue on the subject application.

Reasons Why Petition Should be Granted

As explained in the above statement of facts the state of the claims at the time the

obviousness-type double patenting rejection issued has been changed such that there is no

longer an overlap in the definition of "A" in the presently claimed invention and the claims of

US '829. Furthermore, as apparent from the restriction requirement (Fact No. 5) the claims

to the radiation-curable compounds were considered to be independent and distinct from the

claims for the radiation-curable polymers.

Therefore, the claims of the present application would not have been obvious in view of the

claims of US '829. Accordingly, no Terminal Disclaimer is required for the patent to issue

from the subject application, and therefore, should be withdrawn.

Accordingly, for the reasons stated herein, granting of this petition is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Commission if Known

PTO/SB/17 (10-03)
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	ITTA	ᆫ	Application Number 09/754,243											
)4		Filing Date				January	5, 2001						
P. Marakina			First Named Inventor			ntor	RUDOLPHUS A T M VAN BENTHEM							
Effective 10/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.							Examiner Name				S. Berm	an		
Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27							Art Unit				1711			
TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$) 130.00							Attorney Docket No. 03026				030268-02	275922		
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Name (Print/Type) Richard A Steinberg						17	Registration No.					(Complete (if applicable) Telephone (703) 905-2039		
	<u>'</u>	Richard A. Steinberg					(Attorney/Agent) 26588					(703) 903-20		
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